

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019**

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing crowned with everlasting joy.



REASON TO REJOICE

Dark violet is used throughout Advent to express its character as a season of spiritual preparation for Christmas and “the coming of the Lord.” But on the Third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as *Gaudete* (Latin for “rejoice”) Sunday, rose may be added to the liturgical environment. The entire liturgy is infused with a spirit of rejoicing.

Today’s first reading and Gospel proclaim the reality of God’s saving work in our midst. Isaiah exuberantly describes the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God’s presence in the midst of the people. In the Gospel, Jesus connects Isaiah’s prophecy with what is happening in his own ministry. In addition to the list of healings from Isaiah (the blind, the lame, lepers, and the deaf), Jesus’ presence brings two other reasons for rejoicing: “The dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them” (Matthew 11:5).

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

Psalm — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:00 am 7:00 pm	December 16 Jesusa Galang (L) † Angelo Cerri
Tuesday 8:00 am 7:00 pm	December 17 † Joseph Vella † James “Jack” Budesa
Wednesday 8:00 am 7:00 pm	December 18 Communal Service
Thursday 8:00 am 7:00 pm	December 19 † Amelia Fernandez † Anthony “Tony” Falzon
Friday 8:00 am	December 20 † Vincent Gagliardo Sr. † Maria and † Giuseppe Mazzaferro
7:00 pm Saturday 8:00 am 4:30 pm 7:00 pm	December 21 † Paul and † Theresa Vella Alfredo S. Castillon (L)
Sunday 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 7:00 pm	December 22 People of the Parish Italian Catholic Federation † Joseph Spiteri The Legion Family Thanksgiving

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

For any available Masses listed above please see the priest before Mass with your written intention and stipend.

Sunday Collection December 8, 2019

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
Sunday Collection	\$ 4,299.00
Over/Under	\$ 701.00
Annual Appeal	\$ 668.00

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the “memo” section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. **We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**

**Christmas Novena Masses 2019
St. Elizabeth Church**

December 15-23
7:00pm Novena Masses before Christmas

Main Theme: “God brings love to the world through Jesus”

Sub-themes:

- Dec. 15 “God’s love changes our hearts.”
- Dec. 16 “God’s reconciling grace is at work and surprising ways.”
- Dec. 17 “Jesus is God’s gift to the world.”
- Dec. 18 “Making the impossible possible.”
- Dec. 19 “Mary’s obedience made possible for God to be with us.”
- Dec. 20 “Blessed are you who believe.”
- Dec. 21 “God is with us.”
- Dec. 22 “God sends messenger to prepare the way.”
- Dec. 23 “God’s kingdom comes in the way of love and peace.”

2019 Christmas Schedule

Saturday, December 21
Confession: 3:30 pm to 4:15
Mass: 4:30 pm mass
7:00 pm Novena Mass

Sunday December 22
Sunday Masses 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am

Monday December 23
8:00am regular Mass 7:00 pm Novena Mass (last night of the Novena Mass)

Tuesday, December 24
8:00 am regular Mass
4:30 pm Family Mass
11:30 pm Christmas Carols
12:00 Midnight Mass (Bilingual)

Wednesday, December 25
Christmas day 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am

Saturday December 28
Confession: 3:30 pm-4:15 pm
Vigil Mass: 4:30 pm

Sunday December 29
Sunday Masses
“The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph”
7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am

Tuesday December 31
8:00 am regular Mass
6:00 pm Eve of the Holy Day Vigil

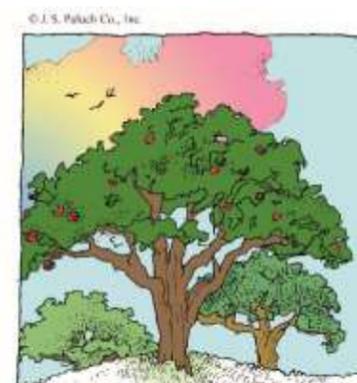
Wednesday January 1
Octave Day of Christmas
(Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00 am Mass: **Solemnity of Mary:** “The Holy Mother of God” 7:00 pm Mass



As we prepare for the Solemnity of Christmas we look forward to the joy of the birth of Christ. We hope to express our joy by filling the church with a bountiful display of poinsettias. We are asking parishioners to donate poinsettias to the Church. We will need a great number of them to beautify the sanctuary. Please bring them to the rectory by December 23rd during office hours. Please note that the rectory is closed on Fridays.

Catholic Charities Free Immigration Legal Services Through December 31st

Through December 31st Catholic Charities Center for Immigration Legal & Support Services is offering free immigration services for those in the community who may need them. Call us for an appointment Monday through Friday at 415-972-1238; or come on Saturday, December 14th without an appointment to receive free legal consultation (on a first-come, first-serve basis) at Catholic Charities office, located in the heart of the Mission District, 2871 Mission Street, San Francisco. Our immigration legal services include naturalizations, family petitions for immediate relatives, adjustment of status, remedies for victims of crime and domestic violence, and DACA renewals with the USCIS fee.



Be patient until the coming of the Lord